



Standard Investigation Report

Incident ID: 134932 (Supervisor Report)

Incident Information

Incident Details, Description and Sequence of Events		
Incident Title: Car accident		
Date: Aug 04, 2024	Time: 4:00 PM	
Description of Incident Location (please do not include personal information such as names, gender pronouns and medical information): The intersection between Westside Rd and Highway 97.		
Accident Type: Motor Vehicle Accident	Injury Type: No Injuries	
Describe fully what happened before, during, and after the incident (please do not include personal information such as names, gender pronouns and medical information): Three members from the PI’s lab, one postdoctoral fellow, one graduate student, and one undergraduate work-study student (all paid), were on a field trip to collect fish from Kamloops Lake and Okanagan Lake. They departed UBC on August 3, 2024 in a UBC Department of Zoology vehicle (2012 Blue Toyota Tacoma; licence plate EJ7705) and were scheduled to return to UBC on August 6, 2024. The fieldwork was described in a Zoology Field Safety Form, Project ID 1973 (attached to this report). On August 4, 2024, the field team was driving from Okanagan Lake to Kamloops Lake after checking the traps in Okanagan Lake. The team drove northeast along Westside Road (west of Okanagan Lake), approaching Hwy 97. The roads were in good condition, and the weather was clear. The team was generally quiet in the vehicle. The driver of the UBC vehicle came to a complete stop at the intersection of Westside Road and Hwy 97. The driver first looked left, then right. Noticing two approaching cars from the right (on the far side of the road), the UBC driver waited a short time (estimated to be 1 to 2 seconds) to allow the approaching cars to pass and then proceeded into the intersection without verifying that no cars were approaching from the left. The road to the left had a bend in it ~100 m away from the intersection. As the UBC driver started to enter Hwy 97 they collided with the side of an oncoming (from the left) white GMC truck. The white truck attempted to avoid the collision by steering left toward the other side of the road, but the front of the UBC vehicle impacted along the side of the white truck. Immediately after the collision, the UBC driver checked for injuries and exited the vehicle. The undergraduate then exited the vehicle from the right rear passenger door. The front passenger door was difficult to open, but the undergraduate aided the postdoctoral fellow seated in the front passenger side to exit. Once everyone was out of the vehicle, the team ensured that each other was okay and uninjured. The driver of the white GMC truck also exited their truck. Witnesses to the accident stopped their car along the far side of the road and asked if there were any injuries. The UBC team and the driver of the GMC truck confirmed that there were no injuries. Another witness, further away and on foot, then approached the scene and		



provided their contact information to the UBC driver. One of the witnesses (unsure which one) then called the RCMP and a tow truck. The UBC team then attempted to call the PI, who was unavailable at the time. The team then called a Zoology staff member for assistance. The Zoology staff member verified that everyone was okay and injury-free and then indicated that the team should gather contact information from the witnesses. During a similar time frame, the team contacted the "external contact" who was identified in the Field Safety Form. The RCMP arrived within ~30 min and confirmed that there were no injuries. The police officer asked if anyone needed a paramedic, and everyone answered no. The police officer then took the licences of each driver to their vehicle and then took voice record "statements" from the witness and both drivers. The police officer then proceeded to take photographs of the scene. Two tow trucks arrived roughly 20 min later and took the vehicles to their lot in Armstrong, where they remain. The RCMP then called a taxi for the UBC team, taking them to a hotel in Vernon. The PI learned of the incident later that evening and called the team at 9:23 p.m. to confirm that everyone was safe and uninjured and to discuss the next steps. The driver called ICBC first thing the following morning to report the incident and was given the claim number. This account of the events was written during an interview with the UBC driver. It was then sent to the other two UBC people on the trip, who verified that it was accurate.

Accident Investigation

Task Related Causes

No "Task" Causes

Environment Related Causes

No "Environment" causes

Equipment Related Causes

No "Equipment" causes

Organizational Related Root Causes

No "Organizational" related causes

Human Related Root Causes

Other (specify below)	
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Other human related causes:
failure to check both ways when pulling into an intersection

Root cause

Incorporating the above factors, determine and describe the root cause of the incident or accident:

The driver failed to recheck their left side for traffic before entering an intersection, leading to a root cause of not exercising due care while driving

Persons who carried out or participated in the investigation



Employer representative name: Katie Pikor	
Job title: Director of administration and operations, Zoology	
Worker Representative Name: Patrick Tamkee	
Job title: Manager, Zoology aquatics facility	

Corrective Actions

Corrective Action to prevent recurrence of similar incidents (1)		
Corrective Action Identified: Immediately following the accident, the RCMP were called and an accident investigation was conducted. UBC team took a taxi to a hotel and did not drive again while on this field trip. All UBC team members were verified to be uninjured.		
Assigned to (name): One of the witnesses called the RCMP.	Job title: Witness	
Final Actions Taken: The UBC team remained in the Vernon until August 6, when a UBC post-doctoral fellow drove to Vernon to collect them. They all returned to campus on August 7		
Date to be Completed: 2024-08-04	Date Completed: 2024-08-07	

Corrective Action to prevent recurrence of similar incidents (2)		
Corrective Action Identified: We have reviewed the incident again and determined that the vehicle was in good working order, the roads were paved and clear, the weather was good, and the occupants were quiet at the time of the incident. As a reminder to employees to exercise due care while driving, we will add a new statement to “Conditions of use” that appears on the vehicle sign-out website. The statement will read (and be bolded): Exercise due care while driving, including obeying all the rules of the road, driving only when alert and in good health, and adjusting your driving for changing road conditions.		
Assigned to (name): Jeffrey Richards	Job title: Professor	
Final Actions Taken: Asked our computing unit to add the statement to the website.		
Date to be Completed: 2024-08-21	Date Completed: 2024-08-20	